

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05
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INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02709

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: TSPA, UN
SUBJECT: OSC: US-CANADIAN BILATERAL

1. US AND CANADIAN DELS MET JUNE 27 TO DISCUSS FORTH-
COMING WORK OF OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE. CANADIAN DESCRIPTION
OF THEIR DISCUSSION WITH SOVIETS JUNE 26 ON NUCLEAR POWER
SOURCES TRACKED ACCOUNT SOVIETS GAVE TO US LATER THAT
SAME DAY (REPORTED SEPTTEL).

2. CANADIANS REPORTED THEY TOLD SOVIETS THEY PREFERRED
TO KEEP THE MATTER IN THE OSC, BUT THAT CANADA FELT
STRONGLY ENOUGH THAT THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO RAISE IT
IN THE GA IN ORDER TO ASK THAT APPROPRIATE DIRECTIONS ON
POWER SOURCES BE GIVEN TO THE OSC. CANADIANS FELT THAT
THIS THREAT BROUGHT SOVIETS TO CONCUR THAT THE GA ANNUAL
RESOLUTION ON OUTER SPACE MIGHT DIRECT THE SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE TO TAKE UP THE MATTER. CANADIAN
IMPRESSION IS THAT SOVIETS WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE
IDEA OF CALLING ON STATES TO VOLUNTARILY PROVIDE INFO ON
LAUNCH OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES UNDER PARA 2, ARTICLE IV,
OF REGISTRATION CONVENTION. CANADIANS FEEL THAT AT THE
HEART OF THE MATTER IS CANADIAN INSISTENCE THAT THE S&T
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SUBCOMMITTEE BE ALLOWED TO TAKE UP QUESTION OF SAFETY
STANDARDS.

3. CANADIANS AGREED WITH US THAT SOVIETS HAVE SOME
RESOLUTION LANGUAGE IN THEIR HIP POCKET AND INTEND TRYING
TO PREEMPT DISCUSSION BY ITS EARLY INTRODUCTION. WE
ADVISED CANADIANS NOT TO GIVE UP EASILY ON THE QUESTION

OF A ROLE ALSO FOR THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE. IT WOULD BE WORTH PRESSING THE SOVIETS TO SEE JUST HOW MUCH GIVE THEIR POSITION HOLDS ON THIS POINT.

4. CANADIANS PLAN AN EARLY MEETING WITH THE 16 OTHER DELEGATIONS WHO CO-SPONSORED PAPERS ON THE ISSUE IN THE STSC AND LSC, IN ORDER TO COORDINATE THEIR POSITIONS. WE DEMURRED ON CANADIAN OFFER THAT WE JOIN THE GROUP FOR THESE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS.

5. ON MOON TREATY, CANADA BELIEVES THE DRAFT NEEDS SOME TIGHTENING UP BUT CONTAINS THE MAJOR ELEMENTS FOR AGREEMENT. THEY DON'T SEE A NEED OR BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE TO TRY TO FINISH IT UP AT THIS SESSION.

6. ON DBS, CANADIANS HAD GIVEN SOME THOUGHT TO SUGGESTING A WORKING GROUP BE SET UP AT THIS SESSION BUT AFTER CONSULTATION WITH SWEDES THEY FELT THAT IT WOULD NOT MAKE PROGRESS, AND THEREFORE WOULD NOT MAKE PROPOSAL.

7. ON REMOTE SENSING, CANADIANS HAVE RECENTLY COMPLETED REVIEW OF POLICY AND WILL BE WILLING TO DISCUSS IT WITH INTERESTED DELS. NEW POLICY IS BASICALLY AN OPEN DATA DISSEMINATION (AS IN PAST) BUT WITH LIMITATIONS ON THIS PRINCIPLE FOR COUNTRIES WHO BELIEVE THEY HAVE SUFFERED DETRIMENT, OR THAT THEIR SOVEREIGNTY HAS BEEN INFRINGED, TO TAKE SOME SORT OF REMEDIAL STEPS.
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LEONARD

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